PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE IN THE UNITED

In re application of

Confirmation No. 2438

Masanori TSUЛ et al.

Docket No. 2002_0038A

Serial No. 10/046,081

Group Art Unit 1755

Filed January 16, 2002

A MOLDED PRODUCT OF ACTIVATED CARBON AND A METHOD FOR PRODUCTION THEREOF

Assistant Commissioner for Patents, Washington, DC 20231

Sir:

Pursuant to the provisions of 37 CFR 1.56, 1.97 and 1.98, Applicants request consideration of [X] the references listed on attached form PTO-1449 and/or [] the additional information identified below in paragraph 3. A legible copy of each reference listed on the form PTO-1449 and each U.S. patent application listed below is enclosed, except a copy is not provided for each reference previously cited by or submitted to the Patent Office in prior parent application Serial No. .

[X] This Information Disclosure Statement is submitted: 1a.

> within three months of the filing date (or of entry into the National Stage) of the aboveentitled application, or

before the mailing of a first Office Action on the merits or the mailing of a first Office Action after the filing of an RCE,

and thus no certification and/or fee is required.

[] This Information Disclosure Statement is submitted 1b.

after the events of above paragraph 1a and prior to the mailing date of a final Office Action or a Notice of Allowance or an action which otherwise closes prosecution in the application, and thus: (1) [] the certification of paragraph 2 below is provided, or (2) [] the fee of \$180.00 specified in 37 CFR 1.17(p) is enclosed. [] This Information Disclosure Statement is submitted: 1c. after the mailing date of a final Office Action or Notice of Allowance or action which otherwise closes prosecution in the application, and prior to payment of the issue fee, and thus: the certification of paragraph 2 below is provided, and the fee of \$180.00 specified in 37 CFR 1.17(p) is enclosed. It is hereby certified 2. that each item of information contained in this Information Disclosure Statement a. [] was first cited in any communication from a foreign patent office in a counterpart foreign application not more than three months prior to the filing of the Statement, or that no item of information contained in the Information Disclosure Statement b. [] was cited in a communication from a foreign patent office in a counterpart foreign application and, to the knowledge of the person signing the certification after making reasonable inquiry, was known to any individual designated in §1.56(c) more than three months prior to the filing of the Statement. Consideration of the following list of additional information (including any copending or abandoned U.S. application, prior uses and/or sales, etc.) is requested. For each non-English language reference listed on the attached form PTO-1449, reference 4. is made to: a full or partial English language translation submitted herewith, a. [] - 2 -

- b. [] a foreign patent office search report (in the English language) submitted herewith,
 c. [] the concise explanation contained in the specification of the present application
- at page,

 d. [] the concise explanation set forth in the attached English language abstract,
- e. [] the concise explanation set forth below or on a separate sheet attached to the reference:
- 5. [] A foreign patent office search report citing one or more of the references is enclosed.

Respectfully submitted,

Masanori TSUJI et al.

v U

Warren M. Cheek, Jr. Registration No. 33,367
Attorney for Applicants

WMC/dlk Washington, D.C. 20006-1021 Telephone (202) 721-8200 Facsimile (202) 721-8250 April 15, 2002

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FORM PTO 1449 (m		ENT OF COMMERC	SE SE	ATTY DOCKET NO. 2002_00384 APR 1 5 2002 SERIAL NO. 10/046,081					
PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE				Masanori TSUJI et al TRADEMARI					
LIST OF REFERENCES CITED BY APPLICANT(S) (Use several sheets if necessary)				FILING DATE			GROUP		
Date Submitted to PTO: April 15, 2002				January 16, 2002			1755		
U.S. PATENT DOCUMENTS									
*EXAMINER INITIAL		DOCUMENT NUMBER	DATE	NAME		CLASS	SUBCLASS	FILING DATE IF APPROPRIATE	
	AA								
	AB								
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FOREIGN PATENT DOCUMENTS									
		DOCUMENT NUMBER	DATE	COUNTRY		CLASS	SUBCLASS	TRANSLATION YES NO	
	АН	0 645 346	3/1995	EP					
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OTHER DOCUMENT(S) (Including Author, Title, Date, Pertinent Pages, Etc.)									
	AJ								
	AK	Abstract of JP 49-115110 A2 Abstract of JP 57-027130 A2 Abstract of JP 03-42039 A2							
	AL	Abstract of JP 57-027130 A2							
	АМ	Abstract of JP 03-42039 A2							
	AN	Abstract of JP	55-167118 A	Λ2					
EXAMINER DATE CONSIDERED									

^{*}EXAMINER: Initial if reference considered, whether or not citation is in conformance with MPEP 609; Draw line through citation if not in conformance and not considered. Include copy of this form with next communication to applicant.